

been indefinitely postponed, it was not now competent to move to reconsider.

Mr. MILLER moved to reconsider the vote, by which the consideration of the motion to reconsider (Debates page 50) was indefinitely postponed.

The PRESIDENT overruled the motion.

Mr. VALLIANT inquired if his appeal was in order.

The PRESIDENT ruled the appeal out of order.

Mr. VALLIANT appealed from that decision.

Mr. CHAMBERS, (by general consent) said: I should be pleased to have the proposition made by the gentleman from Talbot, (Mr. Valliant) divided. Let us take a vote on the subject of adjournment simply. There are many of us here who suppose that an adjournment is to take place, but not knowing at what period, would be much inconvenienced by the information at as early a day as practicable. Some of us may have appointments at home to make, and would be much gratified to be permitted now to say at what time they may expect to be there to meet those appointments. Then let those who wish to move the Convention to Baltimore settle that among themselves. Others of us have no interest in that whatever.

Mr. VALLIANT. I think there will be no objection to dividing the question. My appeal is upon this ground. "The Chair having decided my proposition out of order, because substantially, the same proposition had heretofore been determined by the Convention, and a motion to reconsider made and indefinitely postponed,—

THE PRESIDENT. The Chair has not decided that point. The Chair decided that it was incompetent for the gentleman from Talbot to appeal at this time, having withdrawn his appeal, and there having been intervening business.

Mr. CLARKE moved to adjourn.

The motion was rejected.

Mr. DANIEL moved to reconsider.

The PRESIDENT ruled the motion out of order, an appeal being pending.

Mr. VALLIANT withdrew the appeal.

Mr. DANIEL. I move to reconsider the vote taken deciding against moving to Baltimore.

The PRESIDENT ruled the motion out of order.

Mr. DANIEL appealed.

The PRESIDENT. The proper mode to reconsider is to reconsider the motion to postpone indefinitely.

Mr. DANIEL. I withdraw the appeal and make that motion.

Mr. BERRY, of Baltimore county. The gentleman moves to reconsider a motion for indefinite postponement. "A motion to postpone indefinitely is of American origin, and peculiar to legislative assemblies of this country, in which it is used as an adverse motion to reject or suppress, and with the same ef-

fect." In the House of Representatives in Congress, it is provided by rule that when a question is postponed indefinitely, it shall not be acted on again at the same session. In the absence of any specific rule, we are to be governed by legislative practice. It is the practice of the highest legislative body in this country that a motion to indefinitely postpone prevailing, it cannot be reconsidered during that session of the legislative body.

Mr. BARRON. I am satisfied that we are in the majority in this Convention. If all these reconsiderations are out of order, please tell us, Mr. President, what is in order. Let us have a vote on some question or other.

Mr. SANDS. On the morning after this motion to reconsider was made, I recollect distinctly that the gentleman from Baltimore city, (Mr. Stockbridge) moved to amend the Journal so that it should read that Mr. Stockbridge moved that the consideration of the subject should be indefinitely postponed. I at once reminded the gentleman that the subject had not been postponed, but the motion had.

Mr. STOCKBRIDGE. By referring to the Reports of the Debates and Proceedings, page 51, members will find exactly what passed on that occasion.

Mr. STIRLING. I submit that it makes no difference whether the motion to reconsider, or the motion on the amendment, was indefinitely postponed. It is the ordinary rule of parliamentary law that the indefinite postponement of an amendment carries the whole subject. If an amendment is pending, and it is laid upon the table, the original motion goes with it, and there is no possibility of getting at it separately; and so the motion to indefinitely postpone, an amendment carries the whole subject with it, *ex necessitate*.

The PRESIDENT. There is a motion and an amendment pending, and a motion to postpone that motion indefinitely. Of course it carries the amendment with it. How can the Convention arrive at the original proposition without first taking up the amendment? And how can they reach that at all without first reconsidering the motion to postpone indefinitely.

Mr. DANIEL. I am convinced, on looking at the Journal that that is correct; and I withdraw the motion.

COMPENSATION FOR SLAVES.

The following resolution, submitted by Mr. CLARKE, on Tuesday last, was read the second time:

Resolved, That a select committee to consist of nine members, of which committee the President of the Convention shall be chairman, be appointed by the Chair, whose duty it shall be to confer with the President of the United States, our Senators and Representatives in Congress, and the appropriate committees of Congress, to ascertain and report